

Appl. No. 09/817,441
Amdt. Dated September 8, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2004

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, dated March 24, 2004, Applicants have modified the claims in this Amendment. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth by the Examiner under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting. Applicants will file a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 because the cited conflicting patent, U.S. Patent No. 6,229,541, is commonly owned with this application.

In addition, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth by the examiner under §§ 102 and 103. The present invention is directed to the use of one or more templates which define a set of active regions that correspond to a process or a link on a video screen. Furthermore, the template is provided over a currently displayed visual information. This use of one or more templates results in a simple process of defining active areas with minimal human and computational involvement. The references of record fail to teach or suggest these advances in the present invention.

Gould et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,556,226, is directed to a complex computer system which utilizes software to map content by determining a field of relevance and at least one topic in the field of relevance by providing a multi-dimensional mappings. See Abstract. It facilitates organization of results of database interrogations, web searched and other large data situations, creating a multi-dimensional topic space of content. Gould et al. describes a user interface with regions showing two-dimensional faces of multi-dimensional objects such as a four dimensional cube. See Col. 13, lines 59-67; Col. 14, lines 1-21. Various regions may be displayed on the same screen such that a user may determine which combination is currently displayed. See Col. 16, lines 1-25. Gould et al. describes the use of a complex relevance field versus topic space mapping system wherein two or more fields of relevance

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may be either interdependent or independent. See Col. 5, lines 37-61. On the other hand, the present provides a template with user accessible active regions associated with a process or link. These templates are provided in conjunction with other visual information on a screen. Additionally, other templates may be provided to allow a user to select a preferred template. Gould et al. simple does not teach the use of a template with active regions.

Rosin et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,411,307, simple describes a graphic user interface such as a rotary wheel menu to display individual channels, content, or internet web pages for selection in an internet on-demand system. See Col. 2, lines 48-67. Web pages are presented on the graphical user interface as channels as part of the same milieu as channels of traditional TV programming. See Abstract, see also Summary of the Invention. Rosin simply does not teach or suggest using a template with active regions. The references of record, either along or in combination, fail to teach or suggest this advance in the art.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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